FILED

NOV 0.7 2014

N.J. BOARD OF NURSING

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF LAW & PUBLIC SAFETY
DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
NEW JERSEY STATE
BOARD OF NURSING

IN THE MATTER OF THE LICENSE OF

PATRICIA GALLAGHER, R.N. License # NR 14808100

TO PRACTICE NURSING IN THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY

Administrative Action

FINAL ORDER
OF DISCIPLINE

This matter was opened to the New Jersey State Board of Nursing ("the Board") upon receipt of information which the Board has reviewed and on which the following findings of fact and conclusions of law are made:

## FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. Respondent is a registered professional nurse in the State of New Jersey, and has been a licensee at all times relevant hereto.
- 2. On or about April 22, 2014, the State Board of Nursing of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania entered a Final Order of Automatic Suspension, which suspension was to take effect immediately. The basis for the suspension was respondent's plea of nolo contendere to two felony counts of the acquisition or possession of a controlled dangerous substance by misrepresentation, fraud, forgery, deception or subterfuge, which included the drugs Dilaudid, morphine and fentanyl.

Respondent was sentenced to probation and was placed under supervision for six years. Respondent's Pennsylvania nursing license was to be suspended for ten years, dating from the date of conviction.

## **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

1. The suspension of respondent's nursing license by the Pennsylvania Board subjects respondent to sanctions pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(g).

Based on the foregoing findings and conclusions, a Provisional Order of Discipline was entered on September 3, 2014, provisionally suspending respondent's nursing license. A copy of the Order was served upon respondent by certified and regular mail at her address of record. The Provisional Order was subject to finalization by the Board at 5:00 p.m. on the 30<sup>th</sup> business day following entry unless respondent requested a modification or dismissal of the stated Findings of Fact or Conclusions of Law by submitting a written request for modification or dismissal setting forth in writing any and all reasons why said findings and conclusions should be modified or dismissed and submitting any and all documents or other written evidence supporting respondent's request for consideration and reasons therefor.

The record indicates that the certified mailing of the Provisional Order was signed for. The regular mailing was not returned. No response to the Provisional Order was received. The Board therefore determined that service had been effected, as the mailings had been sent to respondent's address of record with the Board. The Board further determined that as no discrepancies had been raised with respect to the findings and conclusions of the Provisional Order, additional proceedings were not necessary, and the Provisional Order should be made final.

ACCORDINGLY, IT IS on this 7th day of November, 2014, ORDERED that:

1. Respondent's New Jersey nursing license is hereby suspended until her nursing license has been fully reinstated without restrictions by the Pennsylvania Board.

NEW JERSEY STAJE BOARD OF NURSING

By:

Patricia Ann Murphy, PhD, APN

**Board President**